

P
Y

AMP:fb

LDWSF

12.3.297.1 VI

October 14, 1941

Director of Priorities
Office of Production Management
Room 504
462 Indiana Avenue, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

Inclosed herewith is copy of a letter addressed to the Seattle Quartermaster Depot by the Ford Motor Company, Seattle, Washington under date of October 9, 1941 together with a copy of that Company's application for a project priority rating, the original of which was forwarded to your office under date of October 13, 1941.

The War Department has recently purchased the building now occupied by the Ford Motor Company for the use of the Seattle Quartermaster Depot. The purchase instrument, however, contained a provision that officials of the Ford Motor Company would continue to occupy office space in the building for a period of nine months or for such shorter period as might be necessary for the company officials to find suitable office space elsewhere.

It will be noted from the inclosed correspondence that the Ford Motor Company has been unable to find suitable office space in or near Seattle primarily for the reason that defense activities in this area are occupying much of the available space. As a result, it is necessary for the company to erect a new building and it is a matter of vital concern to the Seattle Quartermaster Depot that it be erected at the earliest possible date in order that the space now occupied by the Company officials can promptly be occupied by Army personnel whose available space at this time is not adequate to meet the minimum requirements.

An extremely acute situation with respect to office space exists in and near the City of Seattle at this time, and in this instance it is apparent that the proposed building to be erected by the Ford Motor Company has a direct bearing upon defense activities in this area.

In view of the above, it is urgently requested that the application of the Ford Motor Company be given favorable consideration by your office, and it will be appreciated if you will keep this office advised of the action taken with respect to this matter.

Very truly yours,

C. O. THRASHER
Lt. Col., Q.M.C.
Depot Quartermaster

USEPA SF



1352539

Incls: 2 #1 Cpy Ltr fr Ford Motor Co. #2 - Cpy Ltr fr Ford Motor Co
to Seattle QM Depot(10-9-41) to Dir. of Priorities (10-13-41) C O P Y

C
O
P
Y

AMP:fb

October 14, 1941

SUBJECT: Priorities

TO: Office of The Quartermaster General

1. Inclosed herewith is copy of letter from the Ford Motor Company, Seattle, Washington together with copy of a letter addressed to the Director of Priorities, Office of Production Management, setting forth an application for a project priority rating in connection with the proposed new structure to be erected for the Ford Motor Company.

2. The building occupied by the officials of the Ford Motor Company at the present time has recently been purchased by the War Department for the use of the Seattle Quartermaster Depot. It was provided in the purchase instrument, however, that a portion of the building would continue to be occupied by officials of the Ford Motor Company for a period of nine months or for such shorter period as might be necessary for those officials to find suitable office space elsewhere.

3. The building under consideration contains a large amount of storage space but the office space is extremely limited. As a result of this fact only a small portion of the personnel of the Seattle Quartermaster Depot are able to maintain offices in the building until such time as officials of the Ford Motor Company have vacated the building. The application of the Ford Motor Company for a project priority rating which will enable them to construct a new building is therefore, a matter of concern to the Seattle Quartermaster Depot.

4. It is requested that every possible assistance be given in procuring and expediting approval of the application inasmuch as the urgency of the situation is as great as would be the case if the building was being erected by the Government for use of the Seattle Quartermaster Depot.

C. O. THRASHER
Lt. Col., Q.M.C.
Depot Quartermaster

Incls: 2

- #1 - Cpy. Ltr. fr Ford Motor Co.
to Seattle QM Depot (10-9-41)
- #2 - Cpy. Ltr. fr Ford Motor Co.
to Dir. of Priorities (10-13-41)

C
O
P
Y

10 9 41

Colonel C. O. Thrasher
Seattle Quartermaster's Depot
1519 Alaskan Way
Seattle, Washington

Dear Colonel Thrasher:

Ever since negotiations for the sale of the Ford property in Seattle to the Federal Government, we have been endeavoring to locate a building with approximately 80,000 square feet on one, or not more than two floors, into which we could quickly move our operations. A survey has been made of every possible structure, not only here, but in other communities as far south as Portland, Oregon, but without success. Nearly every real estate agent in the City of Seattle, as well as in the City of Portland, has been very active endeavoring to locate suitable quarters. It is apparent that defense activities, principally in the airplane field, have taken all warehouse space. All of this, as stated, has been done with the idea of a quick move to give you immediate access to the entire Ford branch building.

In view of this failure, it has become necessary that our company arrange for a structure to be built. A location is now available, and arrangements are almost completed, which include the tentative selection of a builder who is just completing a contract and has sufficient workers available for immediate starting of construction; which will allow an early occupancy, provided we can get this project under way quickly.

We earnestly solicit your assistance in obtaining materials for the building through priority arrangements. This will allow the Quartermaster's Department to have at the earliest possible date the use of the entire branch building, which is very badly needed at the present time. The approximate amount of material that will be required is in the neighborhood of \$160,000.00. Following are a number of the items that the builder lists as necessities for the construction of the building. For your information, the building is being planned to eliminate every item possible that is now considered necessary for defense work. In other words, different materials are being used wherever it is at all possible to do so:

30 tons Reinforcing Steel
20 tons Structural Steel
Approximately 10,000 square feet Steel Sash

Colonel C. O. Thrasher

-2-

October 9, 1941

Approximately 40 Plumbing Fixtures
\$30,000.00 worth of Pipe for Plumbing,
Heating, and Sprinkling System
80,000 square feet 6 - 6 - 10 - 10 Re-
inforcing Mesh
20,000 - 8-inch Tile
Sheet Metal, approximate value \$1200.00

There will no doubt be a few other items, but these are the principal ones that go to make up the bulk of material needed.

We are not completely familiar with just how this can be handled, and we will greatly appreciate your guidance and assistance. Understand that if it is possible to have a priority rating of A-1 assigned to the project, certificates could be issued as material is required. In the event that there is any information you may desire that we have failed to give you, kindly advise.

May we say at this time that you and all of your associate officers have been extremely co-operative during the occupancy of this building, and we sincerely trust that it will be possible for us to make a quick move in order not to hamper your expansion in any manner.

Thanking you very kindly for any courtesies extended, we are,

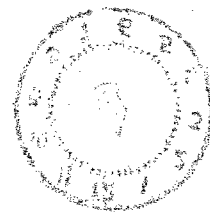
Yours very truly

FORD MOTOR COMPANY

M a n a g e r

WCP:sp

SECRETARY'S OFFICE



OCT 10 1941

October 13, 1941

10 13 41

Director of Priorities

Office of Production Management
Room 504
462 Indiana Avenue, N. W. Ford Motor Company for a period of nine
Washington, D. C. delivery of the deed. Every effort was made

to avoid a building project at this time by attempting to
locate quarters suitable to the type of operation carried
on by the Ford Motor Company and to allow the Quartermaster
Dear Sir: to have immediate access to the entire property.

Complete coverage of the Northwest area has been made, but
In accordance with Procedure FSP-16, Supplement 1, applica-
tion is herewith made for a project priority which is desired to
assist in making available space badly needed by the Army Quartermaster Depot in Seattle for defense purposes. The information in
detail is listed, as required by Supplement No. 1 of this procedure:

at as early a date as possible. Effort has been made to
available. The name of the owner - is in every manner possible
by attempting to build a mill-type construction. With land
available. The Dawson-Fourth Avenue South Building Company, Inc.
To be leased to the Seattle Branch of the Ford
Motor Company.

2. The location of the principal office -

501 Textile Tower, Seattle, Washington. reinforced
concrete walls, foundations and floor, and with timber
posts.

3. Location of proposed plant or expansion - Con-
crete or masonry walls will enclose garage, and all
located Fourth Avenue South at Dawson Street, Seattle,
Washington. topped with self-closing metal fire doors. All
other interior walls and partitions will be built of 2"

4. Materials to be produced - red or finished with mill
board in offices only. The roof will be covered with

asbestos. The Seattle Branch of the Ford Motor Company, and
serving the States of Washington, Oregon, Western Montana,
Montana, Northern Idaho, and the Territory of Alaska, carries a stock of automobile parts for the servicing of
of Ford products. Company has been in business in Seattle for thirty-four years and has been housed in
a large assembly building, which was recently sold to the Army Quartermaster Department. The stock carried serves as a warehouse of automobile and truck
parts to serve not only individual owners, but large fleet users of Ford equipment that are engaged in defense projects throughout the entire Northwest.

Adequate plumbing and drainage will be provided, together with a complete sprinkler system. All portions of the building will be heated - the offices to 70 degrees, and the remainder to 60 degrees - by a steam

October 13, 1941
October 13, 1941

system using radiators and with fan heaters. The building 5. Justification of the project as being necessary right to defense -

A provision in the sale of the building to the Army Quartermaster Department provided for retention of 80,000 square feet by the Ford Motor Company for a period of nine months after delivery of the deed. Every effort was made to avoid a building project at this time by attempting to locate quarters suitable to the type of operation carried on by the Ford Motor Company and to allow the Quartermaster Department to have immediate access to the entire property. Complete coverage of the Northwest area has been made, but defense work has filled completely all structures suitable for this work. Only at the last resort, is the request being made for permission to build, in order to allow the space now being used by the Ford Motor Company to be relinquished and turned over to the Quartermaster Department at as early a date as possible. Effort has been made to avoid the use of critical materials in every manner possible by arranging to build a mill-type construction. With land available, contractor coming off other work with available men, this project can be rushed to completion in not to exceed 150 days.

6. Description of what is contemplated -

The building will be constructed with reinforced concrete walls, foundations and floor, and with timber posts, trusses, purlins, beams and roof sheathing. Concrete or masonry walls will enclose garage, and all interior openings into other portions of the building will be equipped with self-closing metal firedoors. All other interior walls and partitions will be built of 2" T&G plank set vertically and plastered or finished with wall board in offices only. The roof will be covered with asbestos felt roofing. The exterior concrete walls and all interior surfaces will be painted. A loading platform and depressed railroad track will be built and have all openings in walls fitted with overhead wood doors. Steel sash will be installed in all window openings in walls and roof monitors. Flat glass windows in show-rooms, glass blocks in portions of office windows, and glass in certain office partitions. Terrazzo floor will be laid in show-room, asphalt tile floor in offices, and wood block floor in trucking area adjacent to depressed railroad track. Suspended acoustic ceilings in all offices.

Adequate plumbing and drainage will be provided, together with a complete sprinkler system. All portions of the building will be heated - the offices to 70 degrees, and the remainder to 60 degrees - by a steam

October 13, 1941

system using radiators and unit fan heaters. The building will have a complete electric wiring system in rigid conduit for lighting and convenience outlets.

20,000 square feet of ground adjacent to the building will be paved with "Black Top" and enclosed in 6' wire fence.

7. Type of material and equipment required -

350,000' veneer	\$ 17,500.00
650,000' lumber	26,000.00
2100 cubic yards Ready-Mix concrete	14,700.00
40,000 building tile	4,200.00
16,400 sq. ft. plaster lath	492.00
25 tons plaster	750.00
20 tons cement	300.00
40 yards plaster sand	70.00
800 sqs. roofing asphalt, paper & tar	4,000.00
2 tons galv. iron, copper and lead	600.00
3200 sq. ft. terrazzo	4,000.00
13,800 sq. ft. acoustical material	552.00
16 tons structural steel, bolts, rods, plate and washers	3,840.00
43 tons reinforcing steel	3,900.00
80,000 sq. ft. mesh 6x6, 10x10	1,104.00
Wiring Material:	
4,700 lin. ft. 1/2" conduit pipe	
1,600 " " 3/4" " "	
1,100 " " 1" " "	
200 " " 1-1/4" " "	
20 " " 2" " "	
250 4" Boxes Hexagon	
1,200 lin. ft. #12 wire	2,800.00
Plumbing: 38 fixtures, sewerpipe, cast iron pipe, fittings, sprinkler system, pipe, water pipe and galvanized iron	21,000.00
12,000 sq. ft. steel sash	7,000.00
Glass: D.S., plate, metal trim	3,900.00
1,400 lin. ft. fence	4,500.00
Black top pavement - 900 sq. yds.	1,800.00
Asphalt tile	1,400.00
Overhead doors	2,900.00
Rough hardware	1,300.00
Finished hardware	2,400.00
Paints, lead and oil	4,600.00
Finish trim, office partition, interior doors	2,400.00
Vault door	249.00
Miscellaneous materials	20,000.00
	<u>\$ 158,257.00</u>

October 13, 1941

8. Certificate of necessity number, if any -

None.

It is respectfully asked that a priority number be assigned to this project of at least A-1-A or better to allow the Quartermaster Department to have present space at earliest date.

9. Estimated date of completion -

150 days after the start.

10. Estimated cost to complete -

(a) Materials - \$158,257.00
(b) Total - \$270,000.00

11. Percent complete at present -

Property available; building not started as yet for reasons given. Ready to commence immediate construction.

This request for consideration is being made by the Ford Motor Company in behalf of the owners and builders of the building to be leased, inasmuch as the move that is necessary by this company will aid the Quartermaster Department in obtaining badly needed warehouse space in Seattle. This has been completely discussed and covered with Lieutenant-Colonel C. O. Thrasher of the Seattle Quartermaster Depot.

Yours very truly

FORD MOTOR COMPANY

Manager

WCP:sp